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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 18 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit herewith a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Mate Granic, addressed to you (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 87, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 October 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia to the Secretary-General

My Government welcomes Security Council resolution 868 (1993) and is ready to comply with all of the provisions in the aforesaid document. The Republic of Croatia, which is currently hosting, on its territory, one of the largest United Nations peace-keeping operations, is fully aware of its own responsibility to ensure the security and safety of United Nations forces and personnel. In this regard the Croatian Government emphasizes its readiness to cooperate with the Security Council and with the United Nations Secretariat in the spirit of Council resolution 868 (1993).

Croatia considers the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) a paramount part of the process for the restoration of stability and complete normalization in the area of the former Yugoslavia, especially in the light of the Security Council adopting resolution 871 (1993). The new extension of the UNPROFOR mandate has increased the responsibility of UNPROFOR in fulfilling its task, as inscribed in the relevant Security Council resolutions and in the reports of the Secretary-General. To reach all of its goals, the UNPROFOR operation requires not only political determination and adequate logistical support, but also additional measures for providing adequate security for the peace-keeping troops.

United Nations peace-keepers in Somalia, as well as in Croatia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, are continuously faced with the threat of injury or death. These threats demonstrate the need for more precisely defined rules of engagement, a strong chain of command, adequate military equipment and, above all, the endorsement of the Security Council to use all necessary means in the implementation of its resolutions. The recent events in these countries raises the importance of the question of security for the men and women serving under the United Nations flag.

Bearing in mind the importance of the United Nations peace-keeping operations as an invaluable part of regional and global stability, Croatia will support all the measures related to Security Council resolution 868 (1993), under the premise that they are not endangering the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia.

(Signed) Dr. Mate GRANIĆ
Deputy Prime-Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs